Farm subsidies regime at WTO talks

496. SHRIC.M. IBRAHIM:

SHRI-AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU):

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) in what manner farm subsidies in India compare with such subsidies extended to their counterpart farmers and farm labours in USA, UK., Germany, Japan, France and China;

(b) whether these countries vehemently opposed India's farm subsidy regime in the recent WTO talks in Doha; and

(c) what was India's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) Total farm subsidies" (including domestic support and export subsidies as notified to the WTO) provided by USA, EC (including U.K., Germany and France), Japan and China in 1998 were as under:

(in US $ Million)

Country	Domestic Support	Export Subsidies	Total
USA	64957.88	147	65104.88
EC	100698	5843	106541
Japan	30414	Nil	30414
China	31834.76	Nil	31834.76
India	9664.05	3.92	9667.97

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

FDI in retail sector

497. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the issue of allowing Foreign Direct Investment in retail sector has been left to a Group of Ministers (GoM);